

Background Information Concerning CIA

and

The New Agency Headquarters Building

The Central Intelligence Agency was established on 18 September 1947 by the National Security Act of 1947, the same law which created the Department of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Department of the Air Force. This statute created the Central Intelligence Agency with a Director of Central Intelligence to be an arm of the National Security Council. Upon the establishment of CIA, its predecessor organization, the Central Intelligence Group, ceased its existence.

The Site and the Building. The new building faces in an easterly direction. The cornerstone ceremony is being held in what will become the main entrance hall at the center of the east side of the building. The northerly portion of the building can now be seen rising above the ground floor; the south half of the foundations are being completed. To the rear of the foyer a large open area will become an enclosed court in which trees will be planted in the near future. Directly to the rear, the large cafeteria will be constructed at a later stage in the building program. Several large supporting columns for the cafeteria can be seen.

The building is supported by many steel caissons which enclose concrete piles installed by boring into the ground down to solid rock with an auger which may be as much as six feet in diameter. Some caissons have been sunk as much as 70 feet underground.

The Tompkins-Jones firms which were awarded the contract for the main superstructure work began their operations in May 1959 following up on the work on the Roscoe-Ajax firm which performed the foundation work. At present between 600 and 1000 laborers are at work on this site daily. Included in the equipment which may be observed at the site is a large yellow tower used to mix cement. Tank-type trucks deliver cement powder to the base of the tower and the powder is delivered to the mixing machinery by suction.

The CIA property does not extend beyond the George Washington Memorial Parkway, and does not contain any land fronting on the river. The Parkway will probably be extended to the proposed Cabin John Bridge in time for the opening of that bridge which is now estimated to be in late 1961.

The CIA property is on a 140 acre tract which was formerly known as the Leiter Estate. It was purchased by the Federal Government for the Bureau of Public Roads, Department of Commerce, and the CIA tract was obtained from that Department. The Commerce Department continues to own a larger tract adjoining the CIA tract on the upriver side.

The building is being placed approximately in the center of the main part of the CIA site. Separate structures attached to the main building house the cafeteria and auditorium. A power plant and a substation of the Virginia Electric and Power Company will be located at one corner of the site. The two parking lots will provide a capacity of some 3000 cars; for the Cornerstone Ceremony, visitors cars are being parked in the South Parking Lot which is some 10 acres in size. The site contains

some two miles of roads. Throughout the site, wherever possible, the natural growth of trees has been left undisturbed except for clearing out brush and deadwood. The entire perimeter of the main part of the site is bounded by trees, and very little of the building will be visible from the public highways.

The building will contain about one million square feet of space for use by the Agency, plus an additional 600,000 square feet of corridors and service area space. The Ground and First floors constitute an oblong base with curved outer walls and corners, enclosing three landscaped courts. The greatest length of the building north to south will be about 926 feet and the depth, excluding the cafeteria, will be some 475 feet. Rising from this two story base are five connected towers 90 feet wide and varying in length from 151 to 671 feet. These towers contain six floors (Second through Seventh).

One of the outstanding features of the building consists of the windows on floors 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 which are set in precast concrete with a quartz aggregate finish. The quartz aggregate, while predominantly white, will contain some color and will serve to relieve what might otherwise be a rather somber finish. The building is constructed principally of reinforced concrete, with the floor slabs supported by columns generally 20 feet apart.

The Auditorium is a reinforced concrete dome-shaped structure. The dome shape itself is an acoustical feature, and the building will seat some 500 people. The Auditorium will be connected with the building by an underground passage which also provides sheltered access to the building from the bus stop at the front of the building.

The contract for excavation and foundation work by Roscoe-Ajax amounts to approximately 2.3 million dollars and the Tompkins-Jones superstructure contract amounts to some 33.3 million dollars.

SPEAKERS PLATFORM

CORNER STONE

OPEN SPACE FOR PRESS, TV, ETC.

WORK SPACE

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6				6
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19	X		X	19
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21				21

BAND

ENTRANCE

ENTRANCE

A

B

C

D

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STEPS